



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices in Chicago were lower on all sizes. In Boston, prices were lower on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums. In most other locations, prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady to barely steady, instances weak. Supplies were adequate to ample for current needs. Demand was light to moderate and best where features were in progress or planned for next week. Breaking stock supplies were at least fully adequate to ample and demand was light to instances fairly good. Light type fowl were ample to burdensome for normal to less than normal processing schedules.

NORTH ATLANTIC In Boston, prices were unchanged to 3 cents lower for extra large, unchanged to 4 cents lower for large, and unchanged on mediums. In Philadelphia and New England, prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady to barely steady entering the weekend. Demand into all outlets was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to available for trade requirements. Breaking stock offerings were ample for the light demand. Light type hens were ample to burdensome and demand was light.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady to barely steady entering the weekend. Demand into all channels was light to moderate. Offerings were adequate to available for trade needs.

MIDWEST Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were 4 cents lower for large, down 3 cents for medium, and were unchanged for small. Prices were unchanged in all other areas. The trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Retail demand was usually light with scattered feature activity providing some increased interest. Foodservice movement was about moderate. Supplies were ample in most reported areas. Central States nest run breaking stock prices ranged unchanged. Offerings continue at least fully adequate for current needs with demand mostly moderate to instances fairly good. Lower trending values continue to be bid with sellers reluctantly accepting. Floor stocks fully adequate and building. Schedules continue full-time to over-time. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

CHICAGO Prices for extra large and large dropped 4 cents, mediums declined 3 cents. Trade sentiment steady to barely steady. Retail and food service demand light to moderate, best where specials are a factor. Supplies adequate.

SOUTHERN Prices ended the week unchanged. Asking prices for next week's deliveries were generally trending lower than current week. The market tone was steady to barely steady entering the weekend. Demand was light to moderate, best where features were in progress or planned for next week. Supplies were adequate to instances ample for trade needs. Breaking stock demand was light for ample offerings. Light type fowl were ample for the light demand.

WEST COAST Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week in California 7 cents lower on jumbo, 8 cents lower on extra large, 7 cents lower on large, and 4 cents lower on medium and small; in the Northwest 7 cents lower on jumbo, extra large, and large, 4 cents lower on medium. Retailer demand light to moderate but showed some improvement for next week. Offerings ample.

PRICES TO RETAILERS - SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NORTHEAST CITIES	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
Boston (Brown)	94-103	82-92	75-78
New York	59-61	56-59	49-52
Philadelphia	57-71	55-69	48-55
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	57-58	55.5-57	44-45
Jackson (1)	65-66	64-65	53-54
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	61-77	60-75	49-64
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	47-52	46-51	38-43
Detroit (2)	52-55	51-54	38-41
Major Ohio Cities (2)	53-59	52-57	39-45
Major Wisconsin Cities	56-61	54-61	42-49
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	69-73	66-69	55-58
Southern California(Grade AA)(4)	77-90	76-83	69-75
California (Grade AA) (1) (3)	93	86	79
(1) - Prices Reported Weekly	(3) - Reported Invoice Prices		
(2) - Delivered Warehouse	(4) - Prices To Retailers		

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week 7 cents lower on jumbo, 8 cents lower on extra large, 7 cents lower on large, and 4 cents lower on medium and small. Retailer demand light to moderate but improved for next week. Offerings ample. Small invoice price 59. Ads in Southern California: smaller outlets- jumbo dozen 79-99, extra large 20 pack 169, large dozen 99.

CALIFORNIA

PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	99
EXTRA LARGE	93
LARGE	86
MEDIUM	79

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	86-96
EXTRA LARGE	77-90
LARGE	76-83
MEDIUM	69-75

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	229-289
EXTRA LARGE	219-259
LARGE	199-229
MEDIUM	187-199

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Nest run breaking stock prices ranged unchanged with checks and undergrades lower. Offerings continue at least fully adequate for current needs with demand mostly moderate to instances fairly good. Lower trending values continue to be bid with sellers reluctantly accepting. Floor stocks fully adequate and building. Schedules continue full-time to over-time. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 A.M., MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	30-34	30-32
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	14-18	

CENTRAL STATES AREA:

AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Prices were lower when compared to early week trading. Demand was light with offerings ample for trade needs. Breaking scheduler for next week are reported as normal to heavy. The undertone was steady to barely steady with buyers very cautious at prevailing price levels. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending April 21, 2001 were 13 % more than the previous week and 8 % more than a year earlier.

PRICES MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	28-31	28-30
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	14-19	

EASTERN REGION AREA:

AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 21-Apr-01
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED.
CW	1,190,645	26,773	12,017	6,710	2,424	4,137
PW	1,088,469	25,331	10,718	5,732	1,892	3,896
LY	1,109,687	25,898	10,782	5,597	2,663	3,596
% PW	9	6	12	17	28	6
% LY	7	3	11	20	-9	15
2001	17,504,798	398,189	177,163	96,234	37,119	63,502
2000	18,051,230	410,498	179,266	97,807	46,111	60,070

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -		
CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
41.69	41.96	41.34

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized salt yolk reported from 72.5 to 79 cents fob with no pasteurized whites reported. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak for whole egg, about steady for whites and steady to instances barely steady for yolk. Additional product offerings were adequate for all liquid products. Demand was good for whole egg and fair to fairly good on the balance of products. Breaking stock supplies were at least fully adequate with prices lower.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00AM Friday 27 April, 2001 non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	CHANGE FROM	
			WTD. AVG.	LAST WEEK
WHOLE	32	27-29.5	28.36	-3.05
WHITES	18	15-25	18.22	-.16
YOLKS	9	67.5-73	70.06	-3.19

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Prices were unchanged on sugar yolks, unchanged to slightly lower on salt yolk, irregular on whites and majority values were generally unchanged on whole when compared to a week earlier. Supplies were limited on sugar yolks balance of items were usually sufficient. Demand was in a full range of light to good. The undertone was steady on sugar yolks, cautious but steady on whole, and unsettled to barely steady on whites. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending April 21, 2001 were 8% more than the previous week, and 10% more than a year ago.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	TRUCKLOTS		LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.)
	RANGE	MOSTLY	RANGE
WHOLE	44-49	45-48	53-57
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		68-90
WHITES	30-35	30-33	36-54
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	80-83		82-86
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	75-79	77-79	77-83
(/) - WHOLE PLUS YOLK PLUS SWEETENER, GENERALLY 28-32% EGG SOLIDS.			

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg ranged unchanged to slightly higher with salt and sugar yolk unchanged and whites unchanged to 2 cents lower. Trade sentiment was steady to barely steady for whole egg and whites, and generally steady for yolk. Offerings were usually adequate for short term requirements with many processors willing to build frozen inventories and wait on better values. Demand was moderate. Breaking stock supplies were at least fully adequate with prices lower when compared to last week.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	TRUCKLOTS		MOSTLY
	RANGE		
WHOLE	44-49		44-46
WHITES	30-33		
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	80-83		80-82
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	77-79		

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices 1 cent lower on whites, unchanged on whole and yolks. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 4/21 was 2% less than the previous week. Frozen demand slowed with freezer stocks adequate.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, FOB SHIPPING POINT (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.)	
	RANGE	
WHOLE	51-54	
WHITES	36-39	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	87-90	
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	84-87	

NATIONAL DRIED EGG Majority prices were unchanged on blends and albumen although some trading was noted on whites at slightly lower levels. Majority values on whole were unchanged to slightly higher and yolks were sharply higher when compared to a week earlier. The undertone was about steady on albumen, steady on blends, moderating on whole, and steady with some caution noted on yolks. Supplies were irregular. Demand improved with additional interest noted for upcoming internet trading. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending April 21, 2001 were 28% more than the previous week, but 9% less than the same week a year ago.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, DOLLARS PER LB., IN CONTAINERS, TRUCKLOT AND LESS-THAN-TRUCKLOT VOLUMES.

WHOLE	1.60-2.00	MOSTLY	1.65-1.78
YOLKS	1.85-2.05	MOSTLY	1.85-1.95
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	2.45-2.95	MOSTLY	2.50-2.60
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.25-1.40	MOSTLY	1.30-1.35

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APR 20, 01-APR 26, 01

CURRENT LOADS								184.00		FUTURE LOADS								71.50		TOTAL LOADS								255.50	
SE				NE				MW				SC				NW				SW									
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS														
GNR W 1	32.55	34.25	35.10	36.75	35.13	37.29	66.00	GL W J	49.00	—	—	—	—	53.80	1.25														
GNR W 2	—	35.00	31.00	—	31.17	33.00	11.00	GL W XL	37.92	37.00	—	—	43.00	47.05	12.50														
GNR W 3	—	—	—	26.50	27.50	30.00	3.00	GL W LG	35.90	38.33	—	—	—	45.36	14.50														
GNR W 4	—	—	—	—	28.00	30.00	3.00	GL W MD	35.08	35.00	—	—	—	41.58	10.25														
GNR BR 1	—	—	42.83	43.86	—	—	4.50	NRBS - 48	32.50	—	—	—	—	—	3.00														
GL W J	—	—	—	—	41.50	43.00	2.00																						
GL W XL	—	37.67	40.33	42.00	35.20	33.00	25.75																						
GL W LG	—	45.00	37.30	37.90	38.25	37.00	19.25																						
GL W MD	—	36.60	34.50	32.00	32.64	35.50	19.50																						
GL W SM	23.38	24.75	21.75	23.05	—	—	7.00																						
GL BR LG	—	40.00	—	—	—	—	1.00																						
NRBS - 48	28.14	—	—	38.00	30.60	32.94	65.25																						
NRBS - 42	—	—	24.50	—	—	28.00	1.00																						
NRBS - 39	—	—	21.50	—	—	23.00	5.00																						

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was light. Offerings were ample to burdensome for normal to less than normal processing schedules. Sales of canner product was clearing due in part to less than regular processing schedules. The market tone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand for light fowl was light. Offerings were fully adequate to ample for schedules. Sales of dressed product were slow with supplies fully adequate for needs. Trade sentiment was no better than steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices unchanged. Offerings were ample for current production schedules. Many spent hens were going into rendering facilities and other methods of disposal. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants worked full schedules. Offerings ample.

LIVE TYPE HENS

CENTS PER LB., DAY OF NEGOTIATION, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS

LIGHT	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern Light	0-0	(1)
Eastern Light	0-0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading		
(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT		

SHELL EGGS-12 METRO AREA FOR WEEK ENDING 27-APR-01
AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A
LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED
STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	64.14	61.76	52.51
SOUTHERN	62.95	61.61	50.23
MIDWEST	55.18	54.03	42.30
WESTERN	85.30	80.31	72.55
TWELVE METRO AREAS	69.64	66.68	57.20
COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATIONS			

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Prices were unchanged on lights but heavy canners were irregular and overall slightly lower when compared to early month trading. Offerings were more numerous, but floor stocks were still clearing. Demand ranged light to moderately good, however buyers were slightly more cautious for anticipated needs. CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

**LIGHT CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

23.5-25 MAJORITY

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

**LIGHT CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

24-27.5 MAJORITY 24-25

**HEAVY CANNER HENS
(WITHOUT NECKS)**

34-39 MAJORITY 34-38

**HEAVY CANNER HENS
(WITHOUT NECKS)**

35-40 MAJORITY 35.5-38

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 21-Apr-01

(PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

(THOUSANDS)	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	1,706	1,410	3,116
LAST WEEK	1,651	1,473	3,124
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,030	1,433	3,463
TO-DATE/2001	29,714	21,015	50,729
TO-DATE/2000	32,590	21,882	54,472

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

(THOUSANDS)	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	417	13	430
LAST WEEK	316	7	323
SAME WEEK YR AGO	299	0	299
TO-DATE/2001	8,121	120	8,241
TO-DATE/2000	8,519	50	8,569

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

(THOUSANDS)	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	2,123	1,423	3,546
LAST WEEK	1,967	1,480	3,447
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,329	1,433	3,762
TO-DATE/2001	37,835	21,135	58,970
TO-DATE/2000	41,109	21,932	63,041

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending Apr 14, 2001	Year-To-Date			
	2001	2000/1	2001	2000
Liquid	363	39	2,998	1,662
Frozen	0	0	0	40
Dried	0	36	22	112
Total	363	75	3,020	1,814

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending Apr 14, 2001	Year-To-Date			
	2001	2000/1	2001	2000
Liquid	108	110	1,459	1,981
Frozen	50	6	500	140
Dried	40	40	203	443
Total	198	156	2,162	2,564

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending Apr 14, 2001	Year-To-Date			
	2001	2000/1	2001	2000
Jumbo	0	0	87	246
Extra Large	1,620	770	8,706	8,363
Large	570	3,560	28,185	38,237
Medium	60	1,391	11,608	11,058
Ungraded	7,500	8,220	50,588	33,960
Misc	1,500	780	7,787	4,530
Total	11,250	14,721	106,961	96,394

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Pltry Development Div.

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, LOOSE, AT FARM (CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS).

CENTS PER DOZEN	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	26-28	17-19	10-12

NEW ENGLAND PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
114-117	75-78	63-66	56-59	18-21

DETROIT PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE. CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
60-63	51-57	49-54	36-41	24-28

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS -SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 23-Apr-01	3,218	137,387	63,865
AM 1-Apr-01	3,877	116,507	62,425
CHG	-659	20880	1440
PCT CHG	-17	18	2

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG

APRIL 24, 2001

PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	115	104	90	51
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	108-112	97-101	83-87	45-49
MOSTLY	110-111	99-100	85-86	47-48
RHODE ISLAND	111-115	100-104	86-90	47-51
MOSTLY	111	100	86	47
VERMONT	115-118	105-107	90-93	-
MOSTLY	118	107	93	-

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 21-Apr-01

SELECTED	CW	PW	PCT CHG	
CONSUMING CENTERS	THOUSANDS	PW	LY	
ATLANTA	17.8	32.1	-45	-41
BOSTON	3.9	4.1	-5	-32
CHICAGO	36.1	89.6	-60	-52
DETROIT	21.2	33.9	-37	-54
KANSAS CITY	4.5	11.2	-60	18
LOS ANGELES	80.2	124.0	-35	-50
NEW ORLEANS	7.8	9.8	-20	-32
NEW YORK	29.5	40.9	-28	-32
ST. LOUIS	18.6	22.6	-18	6
SAN FRANCISCO	19.5	35.5	-45	-40
TOTAL	239.1	403.7	-41	-44
4 WK MVG AVG	351.1			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 21-Apr-01

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	226.5	-2	1
E.N. CENTRAL	477.8	-15	1
W.N. CENTRAL	260.5	-15	4
S. ATLANTIC	188.3	-6	-7
S. CENTRAL	76.9	-6	3
WEST	209.3	-18	-13
TOTAL	1439.3	-12	-2
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		90	90

CHICKENS AND EGGS - March Egg Production Up 1 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.33 billion during March 2001, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.22 billion table eggs and 1.11 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.05 billion were broiler-type and 67.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2001 averaged 337 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during March 2000. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,178 eggs, down slightly from 2,186 eggs in March 2000.

March 2001 contained 22 weekdays and five Saturdays, compared to 23 weekdays and 4 Saturdays in March 2000.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2001, totaled 337 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 337 million layers consisted of 278 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 56.4 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.80 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2001, averaged 70.9 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from the 71.2 eggs a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.87 billion eggs during March 2001, up 1 percent from March 2000. The average number of layers during March, at 315 million, was up 2 percent from a year earlier.

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